

leadership abilities, knowledge of diversified business techniques and business relations, these diverse women continue to ensure the future advancement of the chapters of the American Business Women's Association.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the women of the American Business Women's Association for their support and contributions to the public and private sectors of our country by helping women advance through education.

#### SCOUTING FOR ALL ACT

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my most profound opposition to H.R. 4892, the so-called Scouting for All Act, which would repeal the federal charter of the Boy Scouts of America. As an Eagle Scout, a member of the Scout Council, and a lifelong advocate of Scouting, I am both saddened and dismayed by this misguided attempt to bully one of the finest youth organizations in America. Since its inception in 1910, the Boy Scouts have instilled in tens of millions of young men the ideals of good citizenship, patriotism, and service to others. Perhaps no organization in our nation's history has done more to prepare America's youth for the challenges and responsibilities they will face as adults.

I hope the irony of this legislation is not lost on my colleagues. In the name of tolerance, the author of this bill is attempting to harness the power of the federal government to change an organization simply because it does not share her views. This bill represents an incredibly arrogant attempt to impose the beliefs of a small minority on a private institution. And it seeks to demonize one of the most fundamentally decent groups in America.

Mr. Speaker, the Scout Oath includes the pledge that a Scout will keep himself "morally straight." Whether one believes homosexuality is inconsistent with that oath or not, the Boy Scouts of America are entitled to interpret their oath, as well as set their own criteria for membership, as they see fit. I would submit to my colleagues that denying them that right would demonstrate a supreme disrespect for the right of people to associate freely, which the Constitution guarantees.

The problem with this legislation should be obvious to anyone who respects the right of Americans to organize themselves as they choose. The legislative power of this Congress should not be used as a tool to shape the policies of private organizations in ways that are pleasing to the political class.

In an age when America's young people are fed a steady diet of violence and obscenity, it is absurd that Congress is targeting an institution as wholesome as the Boy Scouts. In an age when school shootings capture headlines and we busy ourselves combating teen drug use, it is shameful that some of my colleagues would assail an organization dedicated to such principled goals as the Boy Scouts. I urge my colleagues to reject this offensive legislation and send a clear message to the nation's Scouts that they have both the support and admiration of the United States Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to flight delays, I was unavoidably detained in North Carolina yesterday and unable to cast a vote on Roll Call Votes 477 and 478. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Vote 477 and YEA on Roll Call Vote 478. I ask unanimous consent that the permanent record reflect these intended votes.

#### TRIBUTE TO PERRY HALL ON ITS 225TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a very special community located in Maryland's 3rd Congressional District. The Perry Hall community is celebrating its 225th anniversary this year.

Perry Hall is a thriving, suburban community of 40,000 residents located 10 miles northeast of Baltimore City. It was founded in 1775 by Harry Dorsey Gough, who purchased a 1,000-acre estate called The Adventure. He renamed it Perry Hall after his family's home near Birmingham, England. On that site he built a mansion that became known for magnificent gardens and distinctive architecture.

In the years during and after the Civil War, German and Irish families began to settle in the community surrounding the mansion. These families worked hard and developed a thriving dairy and nursery industry. In 1875, Eli Slifer and William Meredith bought the "Perry Hall" property, divided it and sold lots to immigrant families, who then began raising "stoop crops" such as celery and carrots.

Perry Hall began its transformation from rural hamlet to suburban community in the years following World War II. Brick bungalows were built for returning GI's and their brides. New schools were built to serve their growing families and the first shopping center arrived in 1961.

In 1981, the transformation was completed with construction of White Marsh Mall. While the farms and forests of Perry Hall have been replaced by housing developments, shopping centers and new businesses, the most important part of Perry Hall still remains: its friendliness and warmth.

This year, Perry Hall has celebrated its 225th year with a series of events, picnics and concerts. The Perry Hall Improvement Association will cap off this anniversary year with the Millennium Ball on Nov. 3, 2000.

I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing congratulations to all who live in Perry Hall, Maryland, and in wishing them the best on this historic anniversary.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROFESSOR CARL SWARTZ

**HON. SAM GEJDENSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Professor Carl Swartz upon receiving the Educational Excellence and Distinguished Service Award for 2000. Professor Swartz is a deserving recipient and a tremendous asset for Three Rivers Community College.

Professor Swartz is a well-respected professor of business at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Connecticut. He has been teaching courses at Three Rivers since 1971 and has had the distinct honor to serve as chairman for the business administration and marketing programs for 14 years. While at Three Rivers, Carl has been an advisor to the business club and developed new courses in industrial supervision, salesmanship, labor relations, human resource management and advertising. Carl has also served on many committees and was a member of the White House Small Business Advisory Committee during the Carter administration. In addition, in 1999, Carl received the Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges Recognition award for his invaluable work at Three Rivers.

Professor Swartz has gone beyond the role of professor and has been active in the community as well. He has represented Three Rivers on the TVCCA Board of Directors, served as a member of the state council on Vocational Education and written a weekly column for the Norwich Bulletin. By involving himself in the educational and social aspects of his students, he has created a solid foundation for the future of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I Join residents from Norwich in congratulating Professor Carl Swartz on receiving this prestigious award. He is a scholar, a teacher and an example for all.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Santa Clarita, California, for its activities on behalf of preserving the Santa Clara River, located in my district, and for its activities recognizing National Pollution Prevention Week.

The City of Santa Clarita will hold its annual "River Rally" at the Santa Clara River on September 23, 2000. This event will highlight the importance of the Santa Clara River. During this annual event, citizens from throughout the city and the greater Santa Clarita Valley gather and pick up trash from the banks of the river. The River Rally raises awareness of the river and pollution prevention measures. The city and the many business and individuals who participate in the River Rally deserve our thanks.

The City is holding the River Rally during National Pollution Prevention Week, which is